Annual Report on inclusion of Disabled Veteran Leave in Personnel Management System

<u>Mandate</u>: Within one year (October 2019), and not less frequently than annually thereafter, for the next five years (until October 2023), the FAA Administrator shall publish on a publicly accessible Internet website a report on; (1) the effect of the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) of section 2 of the FAA's Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016 (<u>Public Law 114–242</u>), on the Administration's work force; and (2) the number of disabled veterans benefiting from such subsections.

Response:

Under the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-75, November 5, 2015), an employee hired on or after November 5, 2016, who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rating of 30 percent or more from the Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs is entitled to up to 104 hours of Disabled Veteran Leave (DVL) for the purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disability.

At the time the law passed, employees under leave systems that are governed by an independent statutory authority (such as Federal Aviation Administration) were not eligible for this benefit. However, on September 30 of 2016, Congress passed Public Law 114 - 242 - Federal Aviation Administration Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016, which required FAA to include Disabled Veteran Leave (DVL) in the FAA personnel management system.

The table below shows the use of the disabled veteran leave for Fiscal Year 2018. According to the FAA's Federal Personnel and Payroll System, 481 veterans are eligible to use DVL, and 125 (nearly 26%) are taking advantage of it. In 2018, a total of 4,038 hours were used, which averages about 32 hours per person taking advantage of the program. The median use is 22 hours.

Total Veterans Eligible for DVL	Number of Veterans that used DVL Leave in 2018	Total Number of DVL Hours Used
481	125	4,038